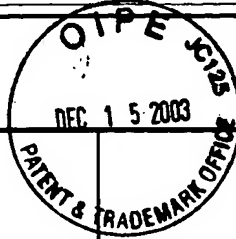


**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))

Docket No.  
16816

In Re Application: **Hiroyuki Takahashi**



Serial No.  
10/616,287

Filing Date  
July 9, 2003

Examiner  
unassigned

Group Art Unit  
3739

**SURGERY SYSTEM**

**Payment of Fee**

(Only complete if Applicant elects to pay the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p))

- ☐ A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. **19-1013 SSMP** as described below.
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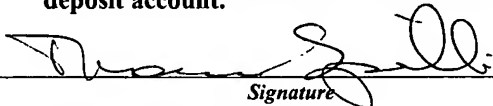
I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on 12/12/03 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence

Thomas Spinelli

Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Certificate

**\*This certificate may only be used if paying by deposit account.**

  
Signature

Dated: **December 12, 2003**

**Thomas Spinelli, Reg. No. 39,533**  
**Customer No. 23389**

CC:

**TRANSMITTAL OF INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT****(Under 37 CFR 1.97(b) or 1.97(c))**

Docket No.

16816

In Re Application Of: **Hiroyuki Takahashi**

DEC 15 2003



Serial No.

10/616,287

Filing Date

July 9, 2003

Examiner

unassigned

Group Art Unit

3739

Title: **SURGERY SYSTEM**

Address to:

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**37 CFR 1.97(b)**

1. ☒ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 CFR 1.53(d); within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 CFR 1.491 in an international application; before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114.

**37 CFR 1.97(c)**

2. ☐ The Information Disclosure Statement submitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b), provided that the Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and is accompanied by one of:

☐ the statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e);

**OR**

☐ the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p).



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

<b>Applicant:</b>	Hiroyuki Takahashi	<b>Examiner:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Serial No:</b>	10/616,287	<b>Art Unit:</b>	3739
<b>Filed:</b>	July 9, 2003	<b>Docket:</b>	16816
<b>For:</b>	SURGERY SYSTEM	<b>Dated:</b>	December 12, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,251,113 dated June 26, 2001, issued to Appelbaum, et al.

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on December 12, 2003.


Dated: December 12, 2003

  
Thomas Spinelli

The reference was cited in a Search Report dated September 12, 2003 received from the European Patent Office. Applicant is submitting a copy of the Search Report. In accordance with the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98 (a)(2)(i), per 1276 OG 55, August 5, 2003, applicant is not required to submit a copy of the above-cited U.S. Patent reference. The relevance of the above-identified reference has been described in the Search Report.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

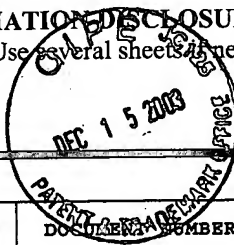
  
Thomas Spinelli  
Registration No.: 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser  
400 Garden City Plaza  
Garden City, New York 11530  
(516) 742-4343

TS:ae

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)



Docket Number (Optional)  
16816

Application Number  
10/616,287

Applicant(s)

Hiroyuki Takahashi

Filing Date

July 9, 2003

Group Art Unit

3739

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,251,113	6/26/01	Appelbaum, et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
							X	
							X	

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.